

I am honored to tell you that today on the suspension calendar we honored His All Holiness Bartholomew, Archbishop of Constantinople, and I commend my colleague for bringing this to the attention of the House. It is not unusual for us to honor persons who are not Americans for their contributions to America and to global society. We have honored many persons, including Tony Blair, Prime Minister of the United Kingdom; Nicholas Sarkozy, President of France; Her Majesty Queen Beatrix of the Netherlands; and we've also honored the Honorable Desmond Tutu and Nelson Mandela, both of South Africa. We have honored events. We have honored what is known as the religious and historical event that is the Festival of Diwali, which was presented to this House in September of last year. And I am proud to say today that we are going to honor Confucius, an Asian teacher, scholar, and philosopher.

Confucius was born in 551 B.C., was one of the great thinkers of his time and of all time. He was a teacher of prosperity and a preacher of peace. He developed Confucianism, a philosophy that has deeply influenced the social and political thought of countries around the world, including China, Korea, Japan, Taiwan, and Vietnam, to name a few. He emphasized that personal introspection, self-cultivation, respect of social relationships, personal and governmental morality, justice and sincerity reflect a moral fiber of the greatest and highest degree.

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He preached that politicians must always represent truth and morality. He taught the philosophy of reciprocity: never impose upon others what you would not choose for yourself.

He taught the "silver rule" which complements the Golden Rule: do not do unto others as you would not have do unto you.

He taught the importance of shame in an orderly society by indicating, if people be led by laws, and uniformity sought to be given by punishments, they will try to avoid punishment, but have no sense of shame. However, if they be led by virtue, and uniformity is sought to be given them by rules of propriety, they will have a sense of shame, and moreover will become good.

I would note that shame promotes good to prevent punishment, whereas punishment precedes bad, to promote good.

He reminded all that, When you have faults, do not fear to abandon them. In different words what he said was, It is virtuous to know one's faults and change. He explained that self-respect begets self-respect when he made this quote, Respect yourself and others will respect you.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentleman has expired.

Mr. CARNAHAN. I yield the gentleman an additional 1 minute.

Mr. AL GREEN of Texas. He gave us with a great degree of simplicity a

quote that I believe is one of his greatest when he articulated, To understand nothing is to understand everything.

I am honored to present this resolution today. I believe that the diversity that we celebrate in this country, the diversity that I have in my district which is 36 percent African American, 31 percent Anglo, 21 percent Latino, and 12 percent Asian, in my district I believe that my constituents are honored to have persons of Asian ancestry who honor and celebrate Confucius. But I think as a philosopher who has transcended time, he is someone we should recognize in the House of Representatives.

I beg that my colleagues would support this resolution, comparable to many others that we have had on the floor of the House.

Mr. HONDA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to support House Resolution 784, honoring the 2560th anniversary of the Birth of Confucius and recognizing his invaluable contributions to philosophy, and social and political thought. This resolution is sponsored by my friend and executive board member of the Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus (CAPAC), Congressman AL GREEN of Texas.

Confucius was born on September 28, 551 BC in the town of Qufu, in what is now the Shandong Province of China. Though he grew up in poverty, Confucius recognized the value of education in creating an informed and knowledgeable society. He lived his life by this principle and traveled throughout China as a teacher to counsel others in introspection, self-cultivation, sincerity, and the observance of respect within social relationships as a means of achieving justice and attaining morality in the personal and public life. In a chaotic time of internal feuds and wars, Confucius established a peaceful intellectual and personal evolution in the minds and hearts of the Chinese people. He began a global effort to move society in an enlightened direction, and his teachings in the principles of self-transformation, humaneness, strength of mind, and an orderly society have contributed to our advancement.

In addition to being known for his commitment to education and self-enlightenment, Confucius's thought also included the principle that politicians must be models of truth and morality. He believed that government must adopt the practice of moral correctness and that politicians must rule with justice and sincerity. These principles have helped build the foundation for political philosophy, and have been a cornerstone for past and future leaders in representing their constituents. Confucius's philosophical teachings have been studied by scholars throughout the world, and his words of wisdom have inspired many generations of dedicated followers.

Confucius is considered to be one of the greatest philosophers, whose teachings and philosophy still influence millions of people around the world today. I am proud to be a cosponsor of House Resolution 784 to honor Confucius's birth, life, and teachings. This resolution recognizes the importance of Confucius's edicts in today's society, and conveys the House of Representatives's deepest respect to this important philosopher.

I would especially like to thank Congressman GREEN for making this resolution a priority on the House floor. As a member of

CAPAC, Congressman GREEN is a committed and conscientious advocate on behalf of Asian American and Pacific Islander communities. I commend his efforts to recognize Confucius's great contributions to society, and I join him in asking you to support House Resolution 784.

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Madam Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. CARNAHAN. Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. CARNAHAN) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 784.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. CARNAHAN. Madam Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. CARNAHAN. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on S. 832.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Missouri?

There was no objection.

SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. McMAHON). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 6, 2009, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

HALLOWEEN HEALTH CARE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. POE) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, this year at Halloween, the Feds will be going door to door playing trick or treat on seniors by taking their Medicare coverage. When they knock, seniors should not answer the door. When they peek through the peephole, the bureaucrats will be dressed as snake oil salesmen because they are cutting Medicare parts A, B, C and D. They are going to try to sell seniors on the new bill which we call Medicare part E, but it doesn't cover one senior citizen. Not one. Just call it Halloween health care because it is really scary.

What is in this Halloween health care bill? Well, just look at the latest and greatest Senate bill. You know, that is